



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

MORLEY W.A.



History

Bethlehem Morley was dedicated on 27 August 1972. The Congregation itself commenced worshipping in the Morley area in 1969. It was the first suburban Lutheran church to be opened in Perth.

Donations from St Johns Perth and individual members enabled the WA District to purchase four blocks bounded by Robinson Rd, Chertley St and Weld Ct in March 1971. The Morley area was chosen because of the large number of Lutherans who had settled in the area after the Second World War. A Manse and a Church/Hall were built in 1972 for the newly formed Congregation thanks to financial assistance from Bethlehem Church, Adelaide who were celebrating their centenary.

In 1980 a new Congregation was formed as part of the Morley Parish at Duncraig, approx 10 km to the North. Morley continued as a two point Parish until 1987 when Duncraig separated from Morley and formed their own Parish.

During the period between 1988 to 1993, Morley was able to assist the WA District by offering the services of our Pastor as part time District President. Essentially this has meant that the Morley Congregation has been served by a part time Pastor from 1980 to 1993.

Bethlehem took on the pastoral care of members in the town of Northam (approx 100km east of Perth) in 1999. Fortnightly worship services and limited visiting was conducted by Pastor Minge until his departure in 2000. In 2001, the Lutheran Church at Northam was closed down and Bethlehem took on the spiritual care of the remaining members after their church plant was sold. Services are now held every two months in member's homes.

Bethlehem celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2002 with plans to start a Faith Community Nurse Ministry. Funds were made available from Lutheran Homes WA, the Koch-Dolling Fund and the LCAWA District. After much investigation and planning, Marlies Dell'Antonio was called as a Parish Worker to fill the position of Faith Community Nurse in a part time capacity (2 days/week). Marlies was installed on the 16th February 2003.

Another exciting ministry started in 2003 with the installation of 2 Youth Interns also on 16th February 2003. Serica Kroeger and Katy Wilkins both committed to devoting 2 days/week to work in the area of Youth Ministry within our parish.

Staff at Bethlehem Morley

The Pastors and Lay Workers that have served Bethlehem Morley follow:

1971 - 1975	Pastor F.H. (Hady) Blaess Frank McInerny (Parish Worker)
1975 - 1980	Pastor C.M. (Chris) Bartholomaeus
1981 - 1996	Pastor R.R. (Ray) Schulz
Jan 1997 - Jan 2000	Pastor E.G. (Eugene) Minge Email
Jan 2001 - Present	Pastor K.D. (Kim) Kuchel Email
Jan 2003 – Present	Marlies Dell'Antonio (Parish Nurse)
Feb 2003 – Present	Serica Kroeger (Youth Intern) Katy Wilkins (Youth Intern)

Location

Morley is located approx 10km North East from the City of Perth and is the only Congregation in the Eastern Corridor of Perth.

The Morley area itself is old and established now. More rental properties are being listed now in this area, so long term community involvement is decreasing. Young couples are more likely to settle in the outer, more affordable, suburbs of Perth rather than in Morley.

The map below shows our location relative to Perth and the other Lutheran Congregations in the metropolitan area.

